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Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic*

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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* The present report was prepared on the basis of replies from organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and Member States.

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II. Replies received from Governments

Brazil

[Original: English]

1. With nearly 30 years of existence, the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic has established itself as an important platform for political and technical cooperation in several areas of common interest to its member countries. Since the previous ministerial meeting of members of the zone, held in Montevideo in 2013, Brazil has promoted a number of initiatives in the areas of capacity-building, exchange of experiences and dissemination of good practices within the zone, in addition to bilateral technical cooperation activities with countries of the zone.

2. In the context of the zone, Brazil hosted the first Seminar on Maritime Traffic Security and Surveillance and Search and Rescue, which was held in Salvador, Brazil, from 15 to 17 October 2013. The event was attended by military personnel from Angola, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Namibia, the Republic of the Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Togo. Participants presented the procedures adopted by their respective countries in order to maintain control over maritime areas and conduct search and rescue operations, as well as to share experiences.

3. In October 2013, the first Symposium for Cooperation between Navies for Security and Situational Awareness in the South Atlantic was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The meeting addressed the importance of developing awareness about the maritime situation in the South Atlantic and was attended by navy officials from Angola, Brazil, Namibia and South Africa. As a result of the Symposium, it was agreed that the joint naval exercise "Atlantic Tidings" would take place, with the goal of increasing interoperability of maritime control and presence actions, as well as strengthening the friendship bonds between the navies of the participating countries. The exercise, originally scheduled for 2014, was postponed to 2016.

4. A seminar on peace operations relating to the zone is scheduled to take place in Salvador, Brazil, in November 2015. The purpose of the meeting is to build the capacity of military personnel from countries of the zone to plan and deploy peacekeeping operations, in accordance with the parameters prescribed by the United Nations and the regional organizations responsible for issues relating to international peace and security.

5. Brazil is implementing 43 bilateral technical cooperation projects with member countries of the zone, notably for: fighting diseases such as AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and sickle-cell anaemia; strengthening the management of water resources and solid waste; addressing social inclusion through access to education, culture and sports; and supporting sustainable agricultural production as well as food security.

6. Brazil believes that the next ministerial meeting of members of the zone, to be held in Cabo Verde, will offer a valuable opportunity to define a strategy for the implementation of commitments undertaken in Montevideo, thus deepening the collaboration between the countries of the zone. For Brazil, concrete actions are needed to strengthen the initiative and consolidate a South Atlantic identity.

7. The implementation of the following commitments needs to be discussed further: the re-establishment of the contact group constituted by countries that have hosted ministerial meetings; the resumption of annual meetings of senior officials on the margins of the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly; the establishment of working groups on peace operations and on trade and investment facilitation, as was decided in Montevideo; and the launch of a web page to disseminate information, news and documents concerning the zone.

8. In the view of Brazil, the following substantive issues merit enhanced coordination within the zone:

(a) The proposal to establish a South Atlantic whale sanctuary within the International Whaling Commission;

(b) The proposal to adopt, within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, a legally binding agreement applicable to marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

(c) Efforts to universalize existing treaties on disarmament and non-proliferation; and

(d) Initiatives to ensure maritime security in the South Atlantic, especially in the Gulf of Guinea.

Togo

[Original: French]

The measures taken and activities planned by Togo in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986 are described below.

1. Efforts at the national level

(a) Organization of a two-day workshop on 15 and 16 June 2015 in Lomé to draft the voluntary national action plan for the period 2015-2019 for implementing Security Council resolution 1540 (2004);

(b) Establishment of an interministerial committee for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(c) Designation of a focal point for resolution 1540 (2004);

(d) Submission, on 9 October 2014, of a second report to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), the first report having been submitted on 8 July 2010;

(e) With the support of the European Union Centres of Excellence Initiative, organization of a workshop in Lomé from 7 to 9 July 2015 on the chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear needs assessment, in order to analyse the elements of and mitigation measures for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks, identify gaps and needs in risk mitigation and build capacity;

(f) Designation of a national focal point for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear issues;

(g) During the Togo presidency of the Security Council, organization of an awareness-raising and training workshop in Lomé on the Iranian nuclear issue for the countries of the subregion;

(h) Establishment of a preparatory committee for the establishment of a national radiation protection, nuclear safety and nuclear security authority, pursuant to Interministerial Decree No. 2014/053/MS/MEF/MAEC of 30 April 2014;

(i) Election of Togo to a second term as a member of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy;

(j) Convening of a high-level conference on maritime security, to be held in Lomé from 2 to 7 November 2015, and, after that meeting, submission of a draft resolution on maritime security to the Security Council.

Legal provisions

(k) Act No. 03-005 of 26 January 2004 authorizing the ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted in New York on 10 September 1996.

Institutional support

(l) Two working visits in Togo, conducted in 2013 and 2014 by an expert from the Division for Africa of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Department of Technical Cooperation;

(m) Provision of equipment by the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization for the creation of a national data centre in Togo;

(n) Meeting between the Togolese Interministerial Committee on Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and experts from the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), held in Togo on 6 June 2014 on the sidelines of the seminar held on 5 and 6 June 2014 to build the capacity of experts from Portuguese-speaking African States to write their national reports on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

2. At the international level

(a) 1970: Ratification of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, opened for signature in London, Moscow and Washington on 1 July 1968;

(b) 1972: Ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Seabed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, concluded at London, Moscow and Washington on 11 February 1971;

(c) 2004: Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted in New York on 10 September 1996;

(d) 2012: Became a member of IAEA;

(e) In addition, Togo is a State party to many counter-terrorism instruments, including the following instruments related to resolution 1540 (2004): the

1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings and the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

3. At the regional level

(a) 23 August 1996: Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa;

(b) 2000: Ratification of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), adopted in Cairo on 11 April 1996;

(c) 27 February 2003: African Union Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism;

(d) 2013: Joined the European Union Centres of Excellence Initiative on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation for countries on the Atlantic coast of Africa and Tunisia, launched in Rabat in 2010.

III. Replies received from organizations and bodies of the United Nations system

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

1. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has encouraged the production of teaching materials and curricula with a view to strengthening teaching about the slave trade and slavery at all levels of education and to raise young people's awareness of the consequences of that human tragedy in modern societies, such as racism, discrimination and modern forms of slavery. To that end, UNESCO has developed and distributed some educational and informational materials, including a DVD entitled *Slave Route: The Soul of Resistance*[1] and an accompanying booklet. A new leaflet detailing the achievements of the Slave Route Project and the prospects for its future, and published in the context of the Project's twentieth anniversary (1994-2014), has also been produced and has been disseminated in academic circles.

2. UNESCO has been encouraging a renewed interest in history education in Africa in order to strengthen ties between Africans and people of African descent in South America, the Caribbean and other parts of the world. This work is being done through the development, on the basis of the UNESCO *General History of Africa* project,[2] of three common curricula for students in the 10-12, 13-16 and 17-19 age groups, together with the corresponding teachers' guides, for use in primary and secondary schools in Africa and the countries of the African diaspora. UNESCO also launched the development of volume IX of the *General History of Africa* with a view to analysing the different African diasporas and their diverse contributions to the construction of modern societies.

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[1] See www.unesco.org/archives/multimedia/?s=films_details&pg=33&vl=Eng&id=1901&vo=2.

[2] www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/dialogue/general-history-of-africa/.